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May 13, 2021

Louisiana Ethics Administration Program
P.O. Box 4368
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821

Request for an Advisory Opinion; City of Zachary- City Attorney

To whom it may concern,

I serve as the City Attorney for the City of Zachary (the "City") but am also in private practice and serve as the Managing Member of the Hopewell Law Firm, LLC, (the "Law Firm") of which I own 100% of those membership units. The Law Firm leases its office space from another closely held company, Old Scenic Properties, LLC.

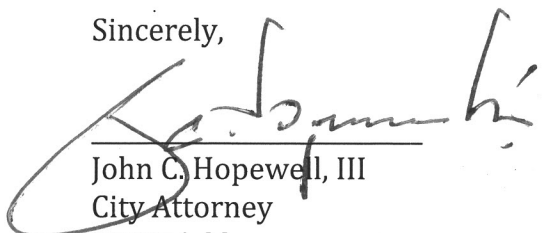
An unrelated sublessee of the Law Firm just recently moved out leaving excess office space available and to which the Law Firm is in the process of attempting to sublease. Hearing of this availability, an unrelated corporate concern (the "Third Party Contractor") that has provided and provides professional services in the form of technical guidance and construction contract management to the City for many years has approached the Law Firm about subleasing one of the available offices.

Although I work with and interact with the individuals of the Third-Party Contractor in the normal course of my duties as the City Attorney, I do not direct their work nor am I responsible for supervision or their direct oversight. I also do not represent the Third-Party Contractor or their employees in private practice. My association is related solely to my position as the City Attorney and their position providing third-party technical contract work to the City.

Before the Law Firm commits to a sublease, I thought it prudent and appropriate to request an advisory opinion. Would it be a violation of governmental ethics for the Law Firm of the City Attorney to sublease office to a Third-Party Contractor of the City in this case?

If additional information is required or follow up necessarily required, please do not hesitate to contact me. I await your response.

Sincerely,



John C. Hopewell, III
City Attorney
JCHIII/nkb

ETHICS BOARD REC'D
MAY 17 '21 PM 2:28

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